

the port or place of destination. The information must be sent to the National Ballast Information Clearinghouse using only one of the following means:

- (i) Via the Internet at <http://invasions.si.edu/nbic/submit.html>.
- (ii) Email to NBIC@BallastReport.org.
- (iii) Fax to 301-261-4319.
- (iv) Mail to U.S. Coast Guard, c/o Smithsonian Environmental Research Center, P.O. Box 28, Edgewater, MD 21037-0028.

(c) If the information submitted in accordance with this section changes, the master, owner, operator, agent, or person in charge of the vessel must submit an amended report before the vessel departs the waters of the United States.

§ 151.2065 Equivalent reporting methods for vessels other than those entering the Great Lakes or Hudson River after operating outside the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone or Canadian equivalent.

For vessels required to report under § 151.2060(b)(3) of this subpart, the Chief, Environmental Standards Division (CG-5224), acting for the Assistant Commandant for Marine Safety, Security, and Stewardship (CG-5), may, upon receipt of a written request, consider and approve alternative methods of reporting if—

- (a) Such methods are at least as effective as those required by § 151.2060 of this subpart; and
- (b) Compliance with § 151.2060 of this subpart is economically or physically impractical. The Chief, Environmental Standards Division (CG-5224), will approve or disapprove a request submitted in accordance with this section within 30 days of receipt of the request.

§ 151.2070 Recordkeeping requirements.

(a) The master, owner, operator, agent, or person in charge of a vessel bound for a port or place in the United States, unless specifically exempted by § 151.2015 of this subpart, must ensure the maintenance of written records that include the following information:

(1) *Vessel information.* This includes the name, International Maritime Organization (IMO) number (official number if IMO number is not issued), vessel

type, owner or operator, gross tonnage, call sign, and State of registry (flag).

(2) *Voyage information.* This includes the date and port of arrival, vessel agent, last port and country of call, and next port and country of call.

(3) *Total ballast water information.* This includes the total ballast water capacity, total volume of ballast water onboard, total number of ballast water tanks, and total number of ballast water tanks in ballast. Use units of measurements such as metric tons (MT), cubic meters (m³), long tons (LT), and short tons (ST).

(4) *Ballast water management (BWM).* This includes the total number of ballast tanks/holds that are to be discharged into the waters of the United States or to a reception facility.

(i) If the vessel uses an alternative BWM method, note the number of tanks that are managed using an alternative method, as well as the type of method used.

(ii) Indicate whether the vessel has a BWM plan and IMO ballast water management guidelines onboard, and whether the BWM plan is used.

(5) *Information on ballast water tanks that are to be discharged into the waters of the United States or to a reception facility.* Include the following:

(i) The origin of ballast water. This includes date(s), location(s), volume(s) and temperature(s). If a tank has undergone ballast water exchange (BWE), list the loading port of the ballast water that was discharged during the exchange.

(ii) The date(s), location(s), volume(s), method, thoroughness (percentage exchanged, if BWE conducted), and sea height at time of exchange of any ballast water exchanged or otherwise managed.

(iii) The expected date, location, volume, and salinity of any ballast water to be discharged into the waters of the United States or to a reception facility.

(6) *Discharge of sediment.* Include the name and location of the facility where sediment disposal will take place, if sediment is to be discharged within the jurisdiction of the United States.

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(7) *Certification of accurate information.* Include the master, owner, operator, agent, person in charge, or responsible officer's printed name, title, and signature attesting to the accuracy of the information provided and certifying compliance with the requirements of this subpart.

(b) The master, owner, operator, agent, or person in charge of a vessel subject to this section must retain a signed copy of this information on-board the vessel for 2 years.

(c) Two alternative ways to meet the requirements of this section are—

(1) Completing and retaining the Ballast Water Reporting Form contained in the IMO ballast water management guidelines; or

(2) Completing the ballast water information section of the form required by the St. Lawrence Seaway Pre-entry Information from Foreign Flagged Vessels.

(d) The master, owner, operator, agent, or person in charge of a vessel subject to this section must retain the monitoring records required in 46 CFR 162.060–20(b) for 2 years. These records may be stored on digital media but must be viewable for Coast Guard inspection.

(e) The information required by this subpart may be used to satisfy the ballast water recordkeeping requirements for vessels subject to § 151.2025(c) of this subpart and 33 CFR part 151 subpart C.

§ 151.2075 Enforcement and compliance.

(a) The master, owner, operator, agent, or person in charge of a vessel must provide the Captain of the Port (COTP) with access to the vessel in order to take samples of ballast water and sediment, examine documents, and make other appropriate inquiries to assess the compliance of any vessel subject to this subpart.

(b) The master, owner, operator, agent, or person in charge of a vessel subject to this section must provide the records to the COTP upon request, as required by § 151.2070 of this subpart.

(c) Vessels with installed ballast water management systems are subject to Coast Guard inspection. Every vessel must have a sampling port(s) designed and installed in accordance with

46 CFR 162.060–28(f) and (f)(2) at each overboard discharge point.

(d) In this subpart, wherever multiple entities are responsible for compliance with any requirement of the rule, each entity is jointly liable for a violation of such requirement.

§ 151.2080 Penalties.

(a) A person who violates this subpart is liable for a civil penalty not to exceed \$35,000. Each day of a continuing violation constitutes a separate violation. A vessel operated in violation of the regulations is liable in rem for any civil penalty assessed under this subpart for that violation.

(b) A person who knowingly violates the regulations of this subpart is guilty of a class C felony.

Subpart E—Definition of Marine Debris for the Purposes of the Marine Debris Research, Prevention, and Reduction Act

AUTHORITY: 33 U.S.C. 1951–1958 (2006); 33 CFR 1.05–1; Department of Homeland Security Delegation No. 0170.1.

§ 151.3000 Definition of marine debris for the purposes of the Marine Debris Research, Prevention, and Reduction Act.

(a) *Marine debris.* For the purposes of the Marine Debris Research, Prevention, and Reduction Act (33 U.S.C. 1951–1958 (2006)) only, marine debris is defined as any persistent solid material that is manufactured or processed and directly or indirectly, intentionally or unintentionally, disposed of or abandoned into the marine environment or the Great Lakes.

(b) NOAA and the Coast Guard have jointly promulgated the definition of marine debris in this part. NOAA's regulation may be found in 15 CFR part 909.

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